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ASIA EDITION

Syntellix inaugurates production site for bioabsorbable implants in Singapore

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Singapore to become Asia's hub for globally unique bioabsorbable implants



Syntellix Asia Pte. Ltd. announced the inauguration of its production site in Singapore's Tuas Biomedical Park, in the presence of His Excellency, the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in Singapore, Dr Ulrich A. Sante, and the Chairman of the Economic Development Board of Singapore (EDB), Dr. Beh Swan Gin.

Syntellix Asia's manufacturing facility hosts the first dry CNC processing of such highly advanced magnesium alloys ever performed anywhere in Asia. Thus, Singapore becomes the hub for the whole of Asia for the globally unique bioabsorbable implants developed by German med-tech pioneer Syntellix AG that can save thousands of lives by making implant removal surgeries and their associated infection and anaesthesia risks obsolete. The company targets significant patient benefits for millions of people in ASEAN and Asia's vast medical technology markets with the world's biggest population of more than 4 billion. BILD, Germany's most-read newspaper, described the unique innovation from Hannover as a "medical sensation".

The inauguration of the production facility of the internationally leading med-tech devices in Tuas on 10 September 2019 marks a milestone in a year that Syntellix has already seen major breakthrough developments. On 28 May 2019, Syntellix was honoured with the German Innovation Award in Gold in the category "Excellence in Business to Business – Medical Technologies" for its MAGNEZIX® Pins magnesium implants at a gala event held at the Museum of Technology in Berlin by the German Design Council, which was founded in 1953 on the initiative of the German Federal Parliament.

MAGNEZIX® bioabsorbable metal implants, based on a globally unique patented magnesium alloy, dissolve completely in the bone. Unlike conventional metal implants, the patient does not have to undergo a second surgery to remove the implants. MAGNEZIX® implants degrade in the human body, and are converted into bone tissue, thereby aiding the healing process. Magnesium also has an inhibitory effect on infections; according to the German Innovation Award jury, it is a "quantum leap in implantology".

Just like the rest of Syntellix's range of products made from the company's innovative MAGNEZIX® magnesium alloy, MAGNEZIX® Pins are designed to provide surgeons and patients with advanced implants that offer a previously

unattainable combination of metallic stability, degradability and biocompatibility. In a widely acclaimed recent academic publication, Syntellix bone screws were evaluated as being “clinically superior” to the titanium implants commonly used.

At an orthopaedic conference in Surakarta/Java held in April 2019, Dr. Gowreeson Thevendran, a leading surgeon from Singapore, described the magnesium technology as “the new gold standard” for orthopaedic and trauma surgery. This was based on his experience with MAGNEZIX® implants over several years at Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Mount Elizabeth Novena and now Raffles Hospital. In his widely recognised trendsetting presentation in front of more than 100 experts from the region, Dr. Thevendran said: “In the five years that I worked with these implants, I have not seen any adverse effects in patients. They are as good as titanium, but have many advantages.” In the following discussion with congress participants, Dr. Thevendran concluded: “I genuinely believe that Magnesium will be the Gold Standard.”

Syntellix implants have product registrations in 56 countries worldwide including Singapore, and they have also been successfully used in leading hospitals locally including National University Hospital, Singapore General Hospital, Sengkang General Hospital, Gleneagles, Mount Elizabeth Orchard, KK Women and Children’s Hospital, Farrer Park Hospital and Aptus Surgery Centre. Recent market introductions in Indonesia and Vietnam have also seen extremely positive reactions with highly successful surgeries in Jakarta, Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

Syntellix Asia, to support its very ambitious growth objectives, recently signed a milestone agreement with leading Chinese orthopaedic implant supplier Beijing Chunlizhengda Medical Instruments Co., Ltd., with a minimum purchase quantity of more than S$160 million. Subsidiaries have been founded in India and the Philippines to tap the significant potential of those markets from the Singapore hub.

Prof. Dr. Utz Claassen, CEO of Syntellix AG and Executive Chairman of Syntellix Asia Pte. Ltd., said, “With growing demand for Syntellix’s innovative MAGNEZIX® magnesium alloy products, we are confident that MAGNEZIX® implants will completely replace conventional titanium, steel or polymer implants globally. Our very first production facility outside of Germany is a significant milestone for Syntellix as it is an integral part of our strategy to tap the immense growth potential in Asia. Singapore is important to us not only as a hub for Asia, but also because of its top-notch, world-class medical professionals, infrastructure and services. We are committed to bringing high-quality, world-class treatments to patients worldwide.”

“Syntellix’s decision to establish its production site in Singapore is a vote of confidence in Singapore’s strength as a location for advanced and high-tech manufacturing activities. Syntellix’s MAGNEZIX orthopaedic implant system is highly innovative and we look forward to the new facility here contributing to its commercial success,” said Dr. Beh Swan Gin, Chairman, EDB.